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GENEALOGY.

THE FLOURNOY FAMILY—The concluding installment of The Flournoy Family, by M. Flournoy Rivers, of Pulaski, Tenn., will not appear until the April number, 1896. In the meantime it is hoped the work will take definite shape to compile and print a Flournoy Family-Book.

CARR GENEALOGY.—Near top of page 210, Carr Genealogy, Vol. III of Magazine, are two errors in names: Top line, "Bentmar" should be "Bentivar," and on fourth line, "Ferrill" should be "Terrill."

GENEALOGY OF THE COCKE FAMILY IN VIRGINIA.

PREPARED BY JAMES C. SOUTHALL.

In the lists of "Adventurers," as they were styled, in the charters of the Virginia Companies, 1609 and 1620, the name is spelled Cock, Cocks, Cox, Coxe. Stith spells it Cock; Burk, Cox; Alex. Brown, in his learned work "The Genesis of the United States," Cox, Cocks, Coxe, Cocke. The term "Adventurers" was not used in a bad sense. It referred to that spirit of adventure which made the seas swarm, in that morning of modern European civilization, with ships sent out from London and Bristol under the auspices of the English gentry and the Trades-Guilds of the English cities, to all parts of the world in search of undiscovered countries, and new avenues of commerce, and which led to the formation and incorporation of the Russia, the East India, the Northwest Passage, and the Virginia Companies, whose bold sea-captains—men like Drake, Raleigh, John Smith, Samuel Argall, the Powells, and scores of others—in their frail barks, roamed unterrified over all the ocean-wastes, laying the foundation of that great maritime empire which has made England in the nineteenth century—like the Phœnicians and the Greeks in the ancient world—the wealthiest and the busiest of nations.

THE COCKE FAMILY of Virginia is to be traced in four distinct lines: 1. The main line, of whom the propositus was Richard Cocke of Henrico, who came over to this country prior to 1632, in which year his name appeared in the list of Burgesses of the "Grand Assembly," as the early records denominate the first Colonial legislative bodies. He patented some 8,000 acres of land in Henrico county, and held the office of County Commandant or Lieutenant-Colonel of the County. 2. The second descending line is the Surry and the Princess Anne Cockes, whose progenitors were three brothers: Captain Thomas Cocke, William Cocke, and Walter Cocke; and their cousin, Captain Christopher Cocke; who came to Virginia about 1690, and settled in Surry and Princess Anne counties (in 1700-1716 Captain Christopher Cocke was Clerk of Princess Anne county, and about 1695 the family of Captain Thomas

Cocke intermarried with that of Colonel Lemuel Mason, the leading citizen of Norfolk county; while in 1699, William Cocke was a justice of Surry county, and both William and Walter justices of the same county in 1714, showing that they were persons of consequence from the very beginning). 3. The third line is that of Secretary William Cocke, of Williamsburg, the friend of Governor Spotswood, who came to this country from Suffolk, England, about 1705, and whose epitaph or memorial tablet is in old Bruton Church. Like the Princess Anne Cockes, his male line soon became extinct, and it is only in female lines that his descendants are represented. 4. The fourth line is that of the Cockes and Coxes of Lancaster, Middlesex, and Westmoreland. In 1658, Nicholas Cocke, and later his son, Maurice Cocke, are in Lancaster county and Middlesex (Middlesex was taken from Lancaster, 1675); and prior to 1700, Pressley Cox is in Westmoreland, where we also find in the early records the name of Fleet Cox.

The Henrico branch, descended from the five sons of Colonel Richard Cocke, or Coxe, as it is spelled in the beginning, were much the most numerous, and became prominent, not only in Henrico (where throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries they seemed to divide the county influence with the Randolphs), but also in Charles City, Isle of Wight, Prince George, Goochland, Amelia, Cumberland, Powhatan, Chesterfield, and Albemarle.

The original seats of the Henrico Cockes were "Bremor" or "Bremo" and "Malvern Hills," the latter (Thomas Cocke³ lived there) some fifteen miles below Richmond on James river, just back of "Turkey Island," the dwelling-house which is yet standing being described as "one of the best specimens of old Colonial architecture," and the estate as one of the finest on the river. It passed out of the hands of the Cockes about the close of the eighteenth century to one of the Nelsons, James Powell Cocke⁴, on account of his health, removing to the county of Albemarle. It was here that one of the most sanguinary conflicts of the Civil War took place in the year 1862 in the battles around Richmond between the troops of General Magruder and a heavy detachment of the army of General McClellan.

London and Bristol, as already alluded to, were the chief centres of the activity of the various companies that sent out their emigrants and their ships to America and the "Summer Isles" at this busy period. Rich tradesmen—like the merchant-princes of Venice in the 16th century—extended their commerce to all parts of the world, and gallant sailors—some of them educated and accomplished men—sought adventures and lands on the Virginia coasts and in the Indian seas.

The composition and character of these companies will appear from the following statement (see "Genesis" United States, I, 228; II, 542): The incorporators under the second charter of the Virginia Company (1609), were 56 London companies and 659 persons, consisting of 21

peers, 96 knights, 11 doctors, ministers, &c., 53 captains, 28 esquires, 58 gentlemen, 110 merchants and 28 citizens, and others not classified. Of these 230 paid £37 10s, or more; 229 paid less than this sum, and about 200 were delinquent and failed to pay their subscriptions. At least 100 of them served in the House of Commons.

In the third charter (1620) there were 325 names: 25 peers, 111 knights, 66 esquires, &c. "The trader predominated in the second charter, while in this, three-fourths belonged to the gentry."

The price of one share of stock was £12, which entitled the payer to 100 acres of land.

"Of those who paid their subscriptions," says Mr. Brown, "about *one-third* came to Virginia and settled; about *one-third* sent over their agents or their heirs; and the remaining third sold out to others. These classes were the landed gentry, and they brought over another class as servants." *Ib.* II, 550.

We must take another statement in connection with this; it is made by a writer in the valuable and well-informed "*William and Mary College Quarterly*" (July, 1895, p. 28). The writer says: "In England at this time the trades were in high repute. The younger sons of the English gentry resorted to the cities, and became tailors, grocers, coopers, weavers, &c."

Our space does not permit us to comment on this, although it opens an interesting field. We only append the following, which our readers may investigate, from the Biographical Dictionary at the end of Vol. II. of "The Genesis of the United States":

"STUART, PRINCE HENRY, merchant tailor. Eldest son of James I; born 1594; died 1612 of typhoid fever."

Among the sea captains who came to Virginia and the Bermudas and Barbadoes occur the names of at least four Powells (1609-'20), and later (1690) of Captain Thomas Cocke, Captain Christopher Cocke, Walter Cocke, mariner, and Captain James Cocke, who appear in Princess Anne, Surry, and Isle of Wight.*

Richard Cocke, of Henrico, as we have stated, took up his abode at Bremono, which included, as would appear, the property called "Malvern Hills," which became the residence of the family of Thomas Cocke,⁴ and descended to Thomas Cocke,⁵ James Powell Cocke,⁶ &c., down to the beginning of the present century.

About thirty miles north of Bristol, in the west of England, running due north and south for a distance of about ten miles and with an average breadth of three miles, presenting very gentle acclivities in many parts, but its summit attaining a height of 1,444 feet, and commanding a wide prospect over the three great shires that converge around it, the Archæan Ridge of MALVERN HILLS, divides the county of Hereford

* About 1680 Captain James Cocke, of the ship *Barbadoes*, sails from Barbadoes to Isle of Wight.

from the county of Worcester, and on the southeast of these, on the south bank of the Upper Severn, with yet ampler dimensions, stretches the county of Gloucester—all three counties touching each other at a common point near the city of Gloucester.

It was this district and from Somersetshire and the neighboring counties of Wales, and from Warwick on the north, Devon in the southwest, Herts and the Isle of Wight in the south, and across the Bristol Channel from the coasts of Ireland, that, in Virginia, the counties of Henrico, James City, Charles City, Isle of Wight, Gloucester, Surry, and Prince George, were in great part settled.

It is important to observe that the names of the early colonial settlers in the James River Valley up to Henricus City *are the family names of Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester*, and the neighboring districts referred to in England, Wales, and Ireland. This would at once become apparent to any one familiar with the history of the Virginia colonists, who would take the trouble to consult for a moment Walford's "County Families of the United Kingdom." London: Robert Hardwicke, 1860.

The names "Berkeley," "Bruton," "Shirley," and "Malvern Hills," on James River; Gloucester, Surry, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Warwick, Lancaster, prove the same thing.

"Berkeley" is from the Berkeleys of Bruton in Somersetshire, and the Berkeleys of Gloucester.* "Shirley" is probably after the Shirleys of Warwickshire. "Malvern Hills" is, of course, from Malvern Hills in Hereford and Worcester.

In 1636 Richard Cock, gentleman, patented 3,000 acres of land in Henrico, adjoining the land of John Pearce and Thomas Harris; in 1639 he patented 2,000 acres; in 1652, 2,842 acres; in 1664 Richard Cocke, Sr., and John Beauchamp patented together 2,974 acres on the south side of Chickahominy river. Cox, Cocks, Coxe, are family names in Hereford; the Beauchamps were from Worcestershire; Harris is a Gloucestershire name; Pearce is a very old Welsh name, Co. Brecon. A near neighbor of these was the Lygons from Worcestershire.

The Carys intermarried with the family of Richard Cocke about 1690. This was a Devonshire family, in the southwest of England, as were the Brays and Dukes; the Powells, Tylers, Lewis', Jennings, Llewellyns [Llewellyn Eps], the Jones' (Anthony Jones was Burgess from Isle of Wight, 1639), are Welsh names; Webb and Dennis are Hereford and

* Sir Maurice Berkeley, of Gloucestershire; Sir Charles Berkeley (son of Sir Maurice), of Bruton, Somersetshire; Richard Berkeley, Esquire, of Gloucester, who, with John Smyth, George Thorpe, and Sir Wm. Throgmorton, jointly owned and named the Berkeley-Hundred plantation.

This John Smyth (d. 1641) was no doubt the ancestor of John Smyth, who was a Burgess from Percies Point in 1632, and the John Smyth, of Warwick, who was Speaker of the House of Burgesses in 1658. Probably of Nicholas Smith and Arthur Smith, justices of Isle of Wight, 1680; and of John Smith, of Gloucester, 1702, and of Phil. Smith, sheriff of Gloucester, 1714.

Gloucester names. Secretary Thomas Ludwell was from Bruton, in Somerset, as was Captain Pawlett, member of House of Burgesses, 1619; Throgmorton is a family name in Warwick, as is probably Randolph; Bathurst and Wyatt are Gloucester names; Carter, a family in Hampshire and Isle of Wight; Archer, a very ancient family in Devon and Cornwall; Pryor, in Herts; Browne, in Hereford and Lancaster; Farrer, in West Riding of Yorkshire; Woodward (Eliz. Cocke married Lawrence Woodward, a descendant of Christopher Woodward, Burgess of James City county, 1629) is a family in Worcestershire; Dennis (Richard Dennis was sheriff of Charles City county in 1714) is an Irish family; so were the Battes. Peter Jones must have been Welsh, as he had a son or grandson named Cadwallader.

All these families lived near to the Gloucestershire port of Bristol, and almost within view of the summits of Malvern Hills.*

The head of the Cocks family in England, in 1860, was CHARLES SOMERS SOMERS-COCKS, of Eastnor Castle, near Ledbury, Herefordshire, his magnificent seat, being situated at the base of the Malvern Hills, about midway between the cities of Gloucester and Worcester. The heir-presumptive to the Barony of Somers was his cousin, the REV. CHARLES RICHARD SOMERS-COCKS, magistrate for Herefordshire.

THOMAS SOMERS COCKS, Esquire, of Thames Bank, near Great Marlow, Bucks, represented a younger branch of the family, and married Agneta, daughter of Right Hon. Reginald Pole Carew, of Antony, Cornwall.

REGINALD THISBLETHWAYTHE COCKS was a brother of above.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHARLES LYGON COCKS†, of Treverlyn-Vean, Cornwall, was a third brother.

RICHARD SNEAD COX, Esquire, of Broxwood Court, magistrate and Dep. Lieutenant for County Hereford (High Sheriff 1858), was doubtless of same stock.

SIR WILLIAM COX, K. T. S., Ireland, was a lineal descendant of Dr. Richard Cox, one of the compilers of the Liturgy, and tutor to Edward VI.

ARTHUR ZACHARY COX, Esquire, of Harwood Hall, Essex, is another of this name.

EDWARD TOWNSEND COX, Esquire, of Balsall Heath, Worcestershire, belongs to a family which came over with William the Conquerer.

* "In 1685 William Slaughter," says the *William and Mary College Quarterly*, "was sheriff of Essex county. In Burk, 'Slaughter of Cos. Gloucester, Hereford, and Worcester.'" January, '94, p. 157. Can it be that this district bore for a brief period this name—as for a brief period it did that of "Rappahannock"? Were the settlers on the Rappahannock also from 'Gloucester, Hereford, and Worcester'?

† "In Henrico the Cocks, the Lygons, and the Beauchamps were near neighbors. In England the Cocks family had intermarried with the Lygons, and the Lygons had intermarried with the Beauchamps—all three families living in Worcestershire and Herefordshire. Earl Beauchamp's name (1860) was Henry Beauchamp Lygon (of Madresfield Court, Worcester).

And there are several others. There was a celebrated Dr. DANIEL COXE, one of the court physicians of Queen Anne and under William and Mary, who was the chief patron and promoter of the Huguenot settlement in Virginia. See *Va. Hist. Col.*, V, p. 9, note.

It is hardly to be doubted that Richard Cocke, or Coxe, who came to Virginia bringing with him the name of "Malvern Hills," was connected with these Cocks' and Coxes of Hereford and Worcester in England.*

With the little beginnings which we have described, the Cockes of Virginia established themselves in the James River Valley, and as time rolled on they intermarried with the families of the Pleasants', the Carys, the Harwoods, the Eppes', the Fields, the Poythress', the Randolphs, the Coles, the Masons of Princess Anne, the Webbs, the Farrers, the Claibornes, the Thorntons, the Ruffins, the Hartwells, the Hills, the Ashtons, the Brownes, the Peters and Allens of Surry, the Taliaferros, the Nelsons, the Bollings, the Archers of Amelia and Norfolk, the Innes', the Carters, the Lewis', the Minges, the Adams', the Cabells, the Smiths, the Nicholas', the Ruffins, the Shorts, the Kennons, the Barrons, the Harrisons, the Fitzhughs, the Custis', the Lees, the Bowdoin, the Barrauds, the Chastains, the Egglestons, the Prestons, the Taylors of Southampton, &c.

At the close of the seventeenth century they were seated at Malvern Hills, Curles, and Bremono, in Henrico, and later at Shirley (Bowler Cocke,⁶ who married daughter of Colonel Edward Hill), Turkey Island, Bacon's Castle (Surry), Shoal Bay (Isle of Wight), Sandy Point (through Sarah Stewart Minge, daughter of Elizabeth Cocke,⁶ of Surry, and at the same time through Colonel Robert Buckner Bolling, of Centre Hill, descended from Robert Bolling² and Anne Cocke), Bremono, in Fluvanna, Bremono, in Powhatan (Ph. St. George Cocke).

The first glimpse that we get of this name in Virginia is an entry in the records of the Virginia Land Patents; "WILLIAM COX, of Elizabeth City, planter (lease for ten years), 100 acres in Elizabeth City. September 20, 1628."

The next is in a list of the members of the Grand Assembly for 1632, given in *Hening's Statutes*, Vol. I, p. 178, and among these names we find:

Both Shirley Hundreds, Captain H. Epes.

From Kethes Creek to Mulberry Island, Th. Harwood.

Warrasquyoake (Isle of Wight afterwards), Thos. Jordan.

Waters Creeke and upper parish of Elizabeth Citty, Captain Thomas Willoughby.

* The name Cocke is so exceedingly rare in England and in this country that it may be quite safely assumed that all who bear it are of a common stock. In the "American Christian Record," a volume containing lists of the clergy of all the religious denominations in the United States and Canada, 1860, giving 20 000 names alphabetically arranged, the name Cocke does not occur once; Cox and Coxe only five times (Episcopal clergy).

Weyanoke, Richard Coxe.

This is the manner of our introduction to Richard Cocke of Weyanoke.

In 1646, in a list of the House of Burgesses, we come again upon the name of *William Cocke*, and he represents Henrico, to which county he must have removed from Elizabeth City. He was no doubt a brother or relative of Richard, and perhaps died unmarried; he disappears as suddenly as he appears—we have no historian of that day.

In the Land Office Book, Vol. I, at end of grant, it is stated that *Lewis Cocke* "came over in 1635."

In 1635 William Prior patented 200 acres of land in Charles City, "bounded N. E. by Charles River (York Co.), south by his own dividend, and west by land of Lewis Cocke" (*Virginia Magazine History*, October, '95, p. 184). This is all we know of Lewis Cocke; he too was, no doubt, related to Richard.

In 1654, we have in *Hening* another list of the members of the Grand Assembly. Among them are:

Henrico, Richard Cocke.

Surry, William Batt, James Mason (later the Cockes intermarry with these Masons).

In 1658 there was a *Nicholas Cocke* in Lancaster county, and in 1673 a *Nicholas Cocke* (same no doubt) was naturalized, and in 1687 a *Nicholas Cocke* died in Middlesex county (coat of arms).

In Lancaster county the will of one Oliver Segar (1658) (mark) refers to his "friends Nicholas Cocke and Richard Lee," and one of his legatees is a son named Randolph.

The pedigree of *Valentine Wood*, clerk of Goochland, 1753 (maternal ancestor of General Joseph E. Johnston and Valentine Wood Southall), represents that his father, Henry Wood, married *Martha Cox*, daughter of *William Cox*, at Bremono, in Henrico, in the year 1723. This was a descendant of Richard Cocke¹ (for Richard Cocke² and Richard Cocke³ lived at Bremono), and it is introduced to show that the name was spelled Cox as well as Cock (as has already appeared from Richard Coxe and William Cox). The well-known Cox family of Chesterfield are probably descended from this William Cox.*

We have mentioned that in Alexander Brown's "Genesis of the United States" the name is variously spelled Cocks, Cocke, Cox, Coxe, Cocke, as also in the early Virginia Chronicles.

In England it is only in old Pepys' book, 1688, (the Diary), that the word is spelled as we spell it in Virginia now. One of his principal characters is a certain "Captain Cocke," whom (I, 227) he describes as

*The Coxes of Chesterfield and Henrico are descended from John Cox, who lived near Dutch Gap in 1677. The Cockes of this period all lived in this neighborhood. John Cocke² was a son of Richard Cocke.—EDITOR.

"a man of great reputation and repute," and whose opinions he quotes on all occasions. He was connected (like Pepys) with the Admiralty, and had "a most pleasant seat at Gravesend." Pepys also refers to one Colonel Charles George Cocke, whom he mentions as having "formerly been a very great man," iii, 398.

In Governor Dinwiddie's correspondence (Dinwiddie Papers) during the French Wars, 1754-'55, he refers frequently to Captain Thomas and Captain William Cocke, and he spells the name *indifferently*—sometimes Cocks,* sometimes Cock, and sometimes Cocke.

There was a great deal of reckless independence in the spelling of that day, even in official documents, and especially in the seventeenth century: Poythress was Poythes and Poythers; Eppes was Epes, Eps; Flood was Fludd; Randolph was Randall and Randle; Percy was Persy, Peirse, Pierse; Byrd was Bird; Bland was written Blund and Blunt; Cabell was Kebel; Baker was Becker; Powell was Powel, Powle; Calthorpe, Cailtropp; Ashton, Aston; Barbour, Barber; Brazier, Brazure. Brashear, Brasseur, Brassier, Brashaw; Goggin (according to Campbell, see his *History of Virginia*, page 164) was Colkin, Cockin, Cockayn, Cocyn, Cokain, Cokin, Gockin, Gokin, Gookin, Gookins, Gooking.

We should make a mistake in conceiving of the old Colonial times if we should call up the picture suggested by the title of Mr. Moncure D. Conway's recent book, "The Barons of the Potomac and the Rappahannock." There was a distinct gentry class in Virginia, and some of them, for that day, were quite wealthy, but they did not live in baronial castles, nor have the "pride, pomp, and circumstance" of the old feudal aristocracy of England, who maintained their estates by the system of entails. They were simply planters and farmers, and owned slaves [in the beginning there were a good many white servants], and ruled the counties. They had little learning. Books were very rare. Few of the planters had such a library as Colonel Richard Lee, of Westmoreland, 1715, or Edmund Berkley, Esquire, 1719. See *William and Mary College Quarterly*, April, 1894. Their inventories show that not many of them owned more than one or two dozen books, and the state of education is indicated by the fact that even men of property often sign their wills by making their mark. The spelling (as mentioned just above) is lawless beyond our imagination. In an old MS. will (written evidently by an attorney) the testator appoints his loving wife "the hole and soul executor of this my last will and testament."†

* Similarly we read of Captain John Wilcocks, who came to Virginia in 1623. His will is printed in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. There was a John Wilcocks who was Burgess for Northampton, 1657-'8. A John Wilcox was Burgess for Nansemond in 1655.

† Jane Lightfoot, in 1649, signs her will with her mark. As late as 1730 the will of Harry Beverly, of Spotsylvania, who devises to his children a half dozen plantations in several counties, containing some 10,000 acres, is witnessed by four persons, all of whom make their marks.

Nor did our gentry ancestors live in fine houses. There were no bricks in the country and few good mechanics, little money, and at first *very few people*. They lived in the forest on the great River that swept silently to the sea that interposed between them and the civilization of Europe. A few miles up the river [where is now Goochland and Powhatan] were the *Indians*.

They had in the seventeenth century few cattle, few horses, and the importation of negro slaves had only been a short time in progress. There were in 1648 about 15,000 whites and 300 negroes in the Colony. The number of horses was 250; of asses, 50. In 1670 the whole population was 40,000, of which 2,000 were negroes, and 6,000 white servants.

When we recall the fact that in Virginia at the close of the late war, there were few country houses containing more than eight or nine rooms and a kitchen, we should not expect the Virginia planters of the first colonial century to possess very spacious dwellings. In those days places like Warner Hall, Westover, Rosehill, Rosegill, Stratford, which numbered perhaps sixteen or seventeen rooms, were the exception; few of them had more than six or eight rooms. The rooms are often enumerated in the inventory: Mr. Samuel Timson, of York (1704), had seven rooms in his house; Rosegill, the residence of Ralph Wormley, esquire, President of the Council and Secretary of State (1701), one of the greatest and wealthiest men in the Colony, contained nine rooms. The inventory of Ralph Wormley's personal property was £2,861. Samuel Timson owned 14 negroes, 10 horses, 78 cattle, &c. Inventory, £472.

The total inventory of Colonel Thomas Ballard of 1707, one of the most famous men of that period, amounted to £603, comprising 18 slaves, 6 horses, 51 cattle, 70 oz. of plate, &c.* Mrs. Elizabeth Digges, widow of Governor Digges, left (1692) personal property amounting to £1,102.†

These inventories (applying of course only to the personal estate) throw a good deal of light upon the condition of the gentry. That of John Washington (son of the immigrant), who died 1712, amounted to £377 3s. 6d. (See *William and Mary Quarterly*.) That of John Carter, Jr., of Lancaster, however, (1690), included 71 slaves, and 63 books

* The *wants* of the people in those old days were exceedingly few, so that a little money went a great ways. This is illustrated by the salary paid the ministers of the Established Church, which was 1,600 pounds of tobacco, equal to about \$60, which is estimated in *purchasing* power as equivalent to about \$500 of the present day.

† In 1665 Lord Paulett, of England, to whom his brother, Captain Thomas Paulett, of Virginia, had in 1644 devised the Westover estate on James river, sold the same, 1,200 acres, to Theoderick Bland, for £170, which was about 50 cents an acre, equal to about \$5 now. In 1688 the Blands sold it to Colonel William Byrd for £300 sterling and 10,000 pounds of tobacco.

† The pound of that day was 20s. of the value of 16½ cents each shilling. Money went a great deal farther than it does now. £5 was about equal to \$150.

in various languages. The inventory of Thomas Jefferson (1696), one of the justices of Henrico, and grandfather of President Jefferson, amounted to £97 16 06½, including "1 p'cell of old books, 10s." *Virginia Historical Magazine*, ii, 236; i, 209.

One of the features of the earlier Colonial period which has attracted our attention in the progress of this investigation is the comparatively *short duration of life*; and 2. *The frequency of marriage*. They died young, and there was brief delay on the part of the survivor in finding a new companion. We have to meet with the first instance of an octogenarian; they rarely passed 50 or 60; and they all seem to have married twice—and some four and six times. See examples of this last *Virginia Magazine of History*, ii, 237; iii, 61.

After the County Lieutenant, the most important officer in the county in Colonial times was the *County Clerk*, who was not only the clerk, but whose house was the *Clerk's Office*, where the county records were kept, and who was probably the legal adviser for the people in general at a time when educated lawyers at least did not abound. The office also brought in a certain salary, probably greater than the products of the plantation; official position too in that day carried with it a great deal of power and importance, as is the case in all monarchies and even in Republican governments in Europe at the present day. The Clerk was, therefore, what that champion gossip, whom we have quoted, Samuel Pepys, denominates "a very great man," and he was always not only taken from the gentry, but he was the leading, or one of the leading men, in the county. This is illustrated by referring to a list of county officers for any year, some of which are yet preserved. The following are from the official records of 1702: We have in Charles City, Benjamin Harrison, clerk; in Elizabeth City, Nicholas Curle; in Essex, ffra Meriwether; in Gloucester, Peter Beverly; in Henrico, James Cock; in King & Queen, Robert Beverly; in King William, Wm. Aylett; in Stafford, William Fitzhugh; in Warwick, Miles Cary, &c. Next in importance to the Clerk was the Sheriff, who was appointed by the Governor. In 1702 the sheriffs were: York county, Henry Tyler; New Kent, Nicholas Meriwether; Middlesex, Sir William Skipwith; Lancaster, John Tayloe; King William, John Waller; Henrico, Giles Webb [Captain Thos. Cocke² had been sheriff (1699), and was sheriff in 1707, but he was now (1702) in the House of Burgesses]; Gloucester, Peter Kemp, &c. Robert Bolling* was Surveyor in Charles City; Edm'd Scarborough in Accomac; Charles Smith in Essex; Miles Cary (there were two at this time; one of them married Elizabeth Cocke, daughter of Richard Cocke² of Bremono in Gloucester; James City, James Minge, Jr.; King and Queen, Henry Beverly; New Kent, James Minge, Sr., &c.

* His son, Robert, in 1706, married Anne Cocke, and had issue: Lucy (Cocke) Bolling, who married Peter Randolph, of Chatsworth, and Martha (Cocke) Bolling, who married Richard Eppes, Burgess from Chesterfield; and Robert, of Bollingbrook, father of Robert Bolling of Centre Hill. See History Bristol Parish, p. 141.

When Thomas Cocke, Sheriff of Henrico, died in 1707, he was succeeded by William Randolph, whose competitors for the office were Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Epes and Major William Farrar, two of the most influential names in this county at that period.

There is on record (see *Va. Magazine History*, October, '75) in Henrico Courthouse a certificate in behalf of Colonel Edward Hill, of Charles City, which gives the following names of the members of the Henrico County Court at a session held in 1680: Mr. Thomas Cocke, High Sheriff; Colonel Wm. Byrd, Lieutenant-Colonel John Farrar, Mr. Richard Cocke, Sr., Mr. Abell Gower, Mr. Thomas Batte, Mr. Peter Field, and Mr. Richard Kennon.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Cocke¹ was in the House of Burgesses in 1632 from Weyanoake; again in 1654 from Henrico. William Cocke was a Burgess from Henrico in 1646. In 1702 Thomas Cocke,³ grandson of Richard, represented Henrico in this body. Thomas Cocke² (son of Richard) was sheriff 1680-88. Thomas Cocke³ (grandson) was sheriff in 1699 and 1707, and in the interim between these dates was probably either sheriff or member of the House of Burgesses. James Cocke, son of Thomas, was clerk of the county, 1691-1707. In 1680, 1699, 1702, 1714 (and no doubt in intervening years), Richard Cocke and Thomas Cocke were members of the county court. In 1728 Bowler Cocke⁴ succeeded William Randolph as clerk, which office he held until 1751, when he was succeeded by his son, Bowler Cocke,⁵ who was clerk until about 1762. In 1752 Bowler Cocke⁵ was a member of the House of Burgesses, and his son, Bowler Cocke,⁶ was in the House of Burgesses in the famous session of 1766. Colonel Allen Cocke and Hartwell Cocke (Surry) were also members of both the last-named bodies. Hartwell Cocke was in the Convention of 1788.

We have indulged in this somewhat protracted dissertation on the Colonial age because it seemed to us necessary to give a certain *entours* and setting to the genealogy which is about to follow, and which would otherwise be a mere barren list of names without associations and without significance.

We will begin our next instalment with the descendants of Richard Cocke.¹

TO BE CONTINUED.

Roll of Members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Massachusetts, 1638-1894. Boston, 1895.

Putnam's Monthly Historical Magazine, October, 1895. Salem, Mass., 1895.

ERRATA.—On page 190, Vol. III, in Dr. A. G. Grinnan's article, "Last Indians in Orange County, Va.," for "Gwin Mountains" read "Twin Mountains." On page 290, the Cocke Genealogy, for "there were no bricks in the country," etc., read "there were many bricks in the country, but few good mechanics."